

The Chippewa Cree Tribal Cultural Sites Database



Montana Land Information Act Grant Application Fiscal Year 2012

Submitted by the
Chippewa Cree Tribal Water
Resources Department

Primary Applicant (Required):

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Department: Chippewa Cree Tribal Water Resources Department

Division:

Date Submitted (Required): February 15, 2011 Date Received by State:

Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project (Required):
Chippewa Cree Tribal Cultural Sites Database

Relevance and Public Benefit

The Chippewa Cree Tribal Cultural Sites Database (CCTCSD) project will meet several of the objectives of the Montana Land Information Act. The Chippewa Cree Tribe is proposing to develop a GIS database of cultural sites and areas on the Rocky Boy's Reservation. This data base is to be an integral part of a larger cultural resource management strategy of the Chippewa Cree Tribe. Cultural resources, including archaeological, historical, and traditional cultural places are important to the Chippewa Cree People of the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation. These places are part of the biography of our people, and this landscape and its history is not only the story of our past, it is our guide to the future.

The goals of this project are straight forward. The Chippewa Cree will standardize and establish a best practice to recording cultural sites on the reservation. In the past there has been a variety of methods used, some have been very good, and others have not. Up until the establishment of the Chippewa Cree Tribal Historic Preservation Office, the input from Tribal Elders and the Chippewa Cree people was minimal. Part of this project will be to establish standardized methods for recording and mapping sites, utilizing current Secretary of the Interior standards, while incorporating traditional insights and protocol of the Chippewa Cree people. The method has been developed over the last several years, and with the help of this grant, it will be formalized and implemented as standard practice. With it partnership to the State Historic Preservation Office, the CCTCSD would include developing multiple layers of GIS data, including information that could be shared with the State of Montana for inclusion in the State Antiquities Database. Other portions, which are more sensitive in nature to the Chippewa Cree people, would be shared only on the crudest level (for instance at the level of Section), while the detailed cultural information would be housed in a secure database with the Chippewa Cree Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

Setting up the CCTCSD will improve communication, development, education, and community outreach. As the reservation continues to grow, development will proceed. One of the concerns of the tribe is the effective planning and management of the resources on Rocky Boy; this includes natural and cultural resources. In planning, cultural resources are one of the first concerns. By having the GIS system in place, it would save time and money by streamlining the communication between the cultural resource managers and the developers. Part of the design of the CCTCSD would also be to communicate with the public. We are currently undertaking a process of recording our elders telling the history of the reservation. We are looking to link these oral accounts to specific places, and then, were appropriate; make them available in conjunction with a map with their location. With these oral accounts and GIS information, we are going to create a walking history where students from the community and interested people could download the tracks onto their ipod, mp3 player, or smart phone and take a self-guided tour with the community's elders guiding them through the history of these locations, and in turn the history of our people. This information, that is to be made part of the walking tour could be disseminated efficiently and cost effectively through the Chippewa Cree Cultural Resource web site.

Scope of Work Narrative

Goals and Objectives

The Chippewa Cree nation is committed to preserving its distinct culture and identity and to passing this heritage on to the next generation. The Rocky Boy Indian Reservation, our homeland, is dotted with sites that preserve a memory of the beliefs, customs and traditions of the people. Many of these are known but not mapped, the general whereabouts of other sites of importance is known, but specific and exact information of their locations is unavailable. This is indicative of a loss of cultural knowledge which is becoming increasingly acute. As an oral culture, the great body of tribal lore and history was preserved orally on the lips of the elders. We have reached the point where that generation, the generation that speak the language and received the fullness of the tradition, is passing into history and with them will go forever much of the richness of the culture. The primary goals of this project are to identify, map, record and preserve, and to educate the younger generation of tribal members and the public in general about the history and culture of the Chippewa Cree people.

The Goals of this project are:

- To standardize the methods used to record archaeological site and traditional cultural properties.
- To create a database to educate our people and help in planning and development. This database will include the GIS information as well as the Tribal Registry of Historic Places.
- To record and catalog these traditional places and archaeological sites utilizing GIS to enhance the planning process and educate people on the Chippewa Cree Culture.

Goal 1 – Standardize Protocol in Identifying, Recording, and Mapping Data:

For the past five years, the Chippewa Cree Tribal Historic Preservation Office (CCTHPO) has been working with the Chippewa Cree Tribal Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (CCTHPAC) along with the contracted tribal archaeologist on developing a cultural resource protocol for recording traditional cultural properties as well as archaeological sites. There are approximately forty traditional cultural properties which have been identified; however, only a few have been recorded. These were recorded in conjunction with National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 compliance. The proposed CCTCSD will take a proactive approach to cultural heritage on Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation.

Objective for Goal 1

With more and more of our elders passing on each year, time is not our friend. It is our intention to complete this project within a 12-month period. The CCTHPO will draw on its own expertise and that of outside experts to expedite this project in a timely manner. The convergence of tribal knowledge and outside expertise has been ongoing over decades and has often been problematic. One of the objectives is to standardize a methodology that harmonizes the cultural approach of the elders, utilizing traditional protocol, with the scientific methods of the trained professional. This will make for a very unique and culturally relevant application to cultural site mapping and recording, and may provide a prototype for other indigenous communities to emulate. This model, while particular to a Native-American community, will conform to all the standards, conventions and best practices of the disciplines of archaeology and GIS. All information will be

recorded on the standard Montana Cultural Resources Inventory System Form and assigned Smithsonian Trinomials.

Goal 2 – Preservation and Storage of Information

This project is part of The Chippewa Cree Cultural Sites Database [CCTCSD] initiative, an effort to create a repository of tribal lore, history and culture that will be a foundation to the preservation of the community's unique heritage and identity. This database is currently under construction; it will be a secured site with restricted access to more sensitive data. It will, however, be encyclopedic in its range: it will contain digital images of our artwork, artifacts, and of our homeland; maps of the sites sacred to our people and the locations of cultural and historical importance; digital photographs of these sites and oral recordings of our elders telling of their significance to us. The CCTCSD will record the history and knowledge our elders possess: the stories, sagas, and legends; the tales of our heroes; the songs, and prayers of our ancestors; and the natural knowledge of our traditional homeland. We will record the native-speakers of language, providing our children with the resource necessary to ensure its survival and continued use among the next generation.

Objective for Goal 2

We are currently in the process of creating this database. This is a matter of great urgency for a number of reasons. Our culture is an oral and visual one, preserved on the lips and in the minds and hearts of our elders. As more of this generation pass away, more and more of our heritage goes with them. We began to record their lore some time ago, but we need to map and record the sites as soon as possible to ensure that we have the oral traditions surrounding them recorded from our elders. Our goal is to have the framework of the database in place by June 2011. We intend to begin mapping and recording forthwith, so we can immediately build on our database and record the oral lore. We plan to have an extensive record within 12 months.

Goal 3 – Educate and Inform

Our goal to educate and inform has both an internal and external application.

- a. **Internal application:** Educating our children: From the perspective of the tribe, the CCTCSD will form a foundation; demonstrating our commitment to preserving our culture and passing out a knowledge and love of their tradition to the next generation. Our children are as familiar with modern technology as the children of any other society in the United States today. They have access to computers at home and in the classroom; they are as much at home on the internet as their forefathers were on the land. We plan to use this familiarity to bring the younger generation into closer contact with their ancestral community and their cultural identity. The database we intend to create will give them access to their heritage at the click of a button. Such a resource is not currently available and its development will prove to be a very powerful pedagogical tool. Our attempts to impart our knowledge to the next generation have been limited by the lack of access to a repository of the wisdom, customs, traditions and practices of our people. The database will provide this and enable to build a curriculum in our schools that reflects our distinct identity. The teaching of our history, language, artwork, song and dance classes, and our native games will be underpinned by an authoritative source. The potential is

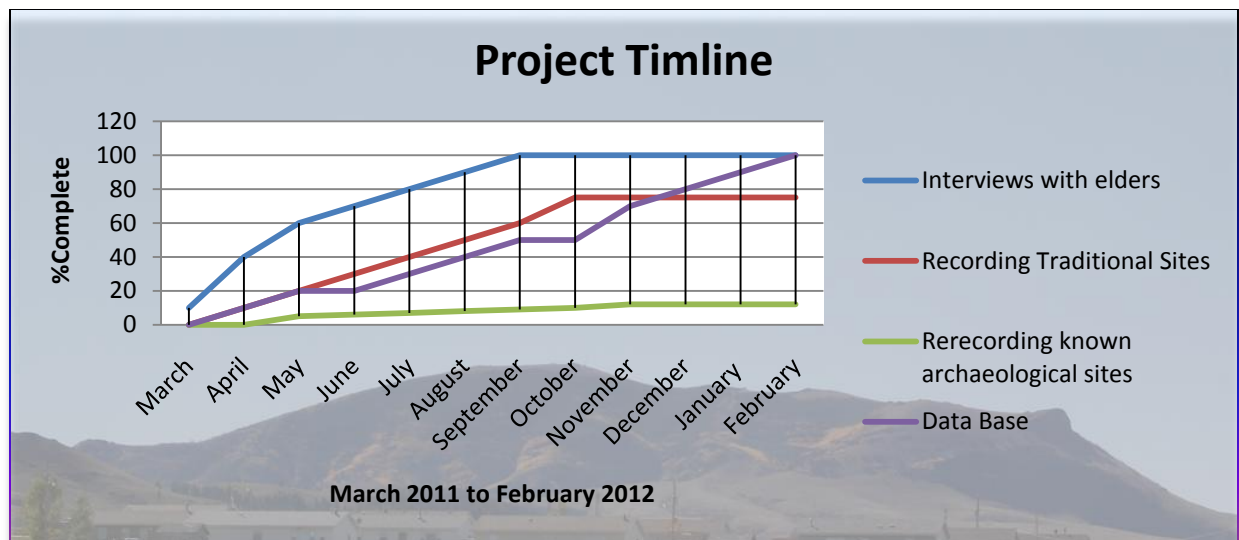
unquantifiable. In the modern world in which we live, a database of the kind we hope to create is foundational to the survival of indigenous culture.

- b. **External Application:** Educating and Informing the Public: There are two distinct elements to this objective: first, the absence of accurate maps and records of cultural and historically sensitive sites has led to tensions between the tribe and private, state and federal planning agencies. The information contained in these sites are critical to the preservation of tribal history and heritage and will be invaluable in facilitating greater communication and transparency in relations between the tribal departments, as well as between the Chippewa Cree and State and Federal agencies. Recent proposed developments have been delayed and have incurred significant added expenses because of the lack of information and accurate maps of cultural sites. The information this project will gather will resolve that issue and expedite future planning and development on the reservation. Efforts to access natural resources and implement development plans have run into considerable difficulties and incurred greater added costs because a public record of culturally sensitive sites has been unavailable. This project, with your assistance, will help to rectify this situation, facilitate greater communication between the tribe and developers, and greatly help to expedite development at a minimum of cost.

The other element involves educating the public in general about Chippewa Cree culture. For our tribe, our homeland records a history of our past and tells the story of who we are. For years historians, archaeologists, and the Tribal Historic Preservation Office have been gathering historical documentation of our people and their efforts and ultimate success in creating Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation. The historical record tells the story of our people in letters, photographs, and historical maps. This is a record of which we are proud, a record we wish to share portions of with the public in general. Sharing our heritage will be mutually beneficial, leading to greater understandings and empathy between the people of the Chippewa Cree Nation and the non-native community. We plan to make all appropriate records available to the public in a manner that enables any visitor to download the information on an ipod, MP3 player or smart phone. Maps will also be made available so that one may take a self-guided tour while listening to the voices of the elders telling the history of each site. Information about historical tours of the Reservation will be distributed to the schools of the state and we look forward to significant developments in cultural education.

Time line of specific aspects of the project

We intend to make all this information available on an ongoing basis, developing the database and the media of accessing the records as an ongoing project. Our plan is to have all the information in storage and available within 12 months.



For this project we plan to record 80% of the traditional cultural properties located on the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation. There are approximately forty of these sites that the elders know about. Many of the interviews with the elders will be completed during the winter. This is the time when our people tell our history and the winter ceremonies take place. The traditional cultural properties will be the foundation of the Tribal Registry of Historic Places. We plan to have 75% of these (approximately 30 sites) recorded and put into the data base within a year. In addition, we are looking to revisit previously recorded archaeological sites on the Reservation and rerecord those utilizing updated and consistent standards. There are over two hundred of these previously recorded sites. We are looking at rerecording 12% of these as well (24 sites).

This would be accomplished in a couple different phases. Initially as sites were identified elders would be brought to the site and interviewed regarding the traditional uses and knowledge of the location. The site would be mapped and recorded utilizing Chippewa Cree Site Recording Protocol. This includes traditional offerings, recordings of the elders (audio/video), and preparing at least one (possibly two) Montana Cultural Resource Information System Forms (CRIS). One will be assigned a Smithsonian Trinomial and put on file with the Montana State Historic Preservation Office for inclusion in the State Antiquity Database, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Rocky Mountain Area Office, and it will be filed with the Tribal Historic Preservation Office. On very sensitive sites two site forms will be completed. One will be passed on to the State Historic Preservation Office and BIA containing the rough location and significance of the site and a second form with detailed information will be kept on a secure database with the Tribal Historic Preservation Office. The audio and/or video recordings of the elders will be put on file with the Tribal Historic Preservation Office's secure database as well. Following the recording of the sites on the CRIS form, the site would be surveyed and mapped for possible inclusion on the Tribal Register of Historic Places and in the Tribes GIS database. This will be accomplished with the teamwork of the Water Resources GIS Coordinator, the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, the Tribal Archaeologist, and Tribal Surveyor. This team will work in conjunction to guarantee high quality consistent mapping of all sites. An average of two sites a week will be recorded from March through October (for a total of 54 sites). While data will be gathered, much of the writing will be done after the snow falls in the fall. From November to February, the site forms will be completed as well as data entry.

Project Management and Organizational Capability Narrative

The project will be mediated through the Chippewa Cree Tribal Water Resources Department (TWRD) and the Chippewa Cree Tribal Historic Preservation Office [CCTHPO]. The CCTPO will ensure full participation of tribal elders and members who possess oral knowledge and history of the sites. CCTHPO has been involved in mapping and recording the history of the tribe over the past five years and provides vast experience and technical knowledge allied with a sensitive appreciation of the subject matter and cultural and historic sites. The Chippewa Cree Tribal Archaeologist will provide the technical expertise in the process of cultural resource recording methods; assist in determining National Register Significance where necessary. In addition, the Tribal Archaeologist will prepare the CRIS forms for the CCTHPO. The Chippewa Cree TWRD has a full time GIS data manager as well as multiple surveyors on staff. The participation of TWRD staff is critical to ensure the technical aspects of the GIS system are completed. The TWRD staff has a proven track record for completing large scale GIS data projects. In addition the TWRD staff is made up of tribal members with a vested interest in ensuring a thorough, consistent, and accurate mapping of these sites, which are of course part of their cultural heritage. TWRD's successful GIS related projects include, but are not limited to:

1. Update National Wetland Inventory(NWI)/Riparian Data for the entire Reservation (which helps with permit applications)
2. Map 1ft Elevation Contours for the Lower Box Elder Creek
3. Acquire 1m Resolution Aerial Imagery for the entire Reservation
4. Map Stream segment mapping for the Tribes Water Quality and Wetland Standards
5. High Quality/Cultural Wetland Areas
6. Individual Septic Systems, near water ways
7. Lagoons on the Reservation
8. We developed a database specific for GIS that represents all TWRD programs with latitude and longitudes for projects, acreages, finished maps and unfinished maps

This skill, technology, knowledge, and proven track record will be applied to map and record those cultural sites that have gone undocumented over the past number of years. A top staff will be utilized to accomplish this task. Everyone working on this project has a vested interest in the success of this project. Most of the collaborative team are Chippewa Cree tribal members, and all having been working on development of the protocol and recording of cultural sites for several years.

Key Personnel

Keith Gopher is the Chippewa Cree Wetlands Coordinator and works in the Chippewa Cree Tribal Water Resource Department. Mr. Gopher has been central to the tribes GIS data base, having participated in all GIS related projects for TWRD. In addition, Mr. Gopher is a ceremonial leader for the tribe. His GIS experience and closeness with the culture is an assurance of the quality and skills needed.

Wes Kirn is an experienced surveyor and works for the Chippewa Cree Tribe in several capacities. He is the man people turn to for surveys and knowledge of survey equipment on

Rocky Boy. Mr. Kirn has operated surveyor grade GPS equipment for a wide variety of projects from seismic surveys to construction projects. Mr. Kirn is skilled at slope staking, point staking, cross-section work, volumetric surveys, grade checking, and is very experienced with the TDS survey program and its abilities. Mr. Kirn's skill and expertise will be invaluable to ensuring professional quality of all GIS maps.

Robert C. O'Boyle is the contracted Chippewa Cree Tribal Archaeologist and a doctoral student at the University of Montana where he is earning his Doctorate in Cultural Heritage Studies. He has worked in cultural resource management for the past thirteen years in Montana, Washington, Colorado, and Oregon working on over 200 class III cultural resource inventories as well as numerous data recoveries and cultural resource education projects. He began work on the Rocky Boy's Reservation in 1999. O'Boyle was the project archaeologist for the University of Montana's 2006 data recovery of 24HL1215, and in 2007, the data recovery of 24HL1085. Since this time, O'Boyle has been working closely with the Chippewa Cree Tribal Historic Preservation Office and the Chippewa Cree Tribal Historic Preservation Advisory Committee on development and implementation of the cultural resource program on Rocky Boy's Reservation.

Mr. Videl (Ruby Writing Bird) Stump, tribal elder and member of the Tribal Historic Preservation Advisory Committee has been a lifelong resident of the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation and is involved with all ceremonies of both Tribes. Mr. Stump has extensive knowledge of the Cree way of life and is involved with all of the ceremonies that are conducted in Rocky Boy. Videl's most important education was from past Elders who taught him Cree History, ceremonies, and the Cree way-of-life. Mr. Stump and his wife are very involved with all projects on the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation that include Elders and teaching the community about Cree culture and history.

Duncan Standing Rock is also a tribal elder and member of the Tribal Historic Preservation Advisory Committee. Mr. Standing Rock is the son of Ruby (Well-Off-Man) Crazy Boy and was adopted and raised by Mike and Mary Snake. Duncan is one of a very few persons living in Rocky Boy that possesses specific knowledge of the Ojibwa plight and ways of that Tribe. He also has a good understanding of Ojibwa ceremonial and traditional ways that a large number of Tribal members today are not familiar with. Mr. Standing Rock attended Parker Day School, Havre School, Great Falls (Franklin) School, and Helena Country School, finishing with a 4th grade education. When he attended Parker Day School an interpreter for him was always utilized since he did not speak the English language. Duncan eventually became very astute with common law, leading him to serve as Court Advocate Aide with the Montana Legal Services. He also served Tribal Government with the Chippewa Cree Business Committee for a number of years before retiring.

Jason Brown of Thumbprint Security is a web based security specialist who has extensively worked in data base creation, online security, and web development. Mr. Brown has worked around the world for governments, as well as private entities in creating secure customized web based solutions for their data needs. Mr. Brown has recently begun to work with the Chippewa Cree Tribal Historic Preservation Office and the Tribal Historic Preservation Advisory Committee on creating a safe way to store cultural data, with the ability to share portions of that data with public; while keeping portions of the more sensitive data secure.

Budget Justification Narrative and Tables

Contractual: The Chippewa Cree Tribe will contract the services of private consultants to assist in the finalization of the CCTCSD, the intensive study (field work), writing, and technical support. In addition, Tribal elders will also be used as consultant for purposes of developing the CCTCSD. **Total contractual request from MLIA \$34,890.**

The contract archaeologist is hired on an annual basis for the tribe at \$85,000 including overhead. The portion of this project would require approximately half full-time equivalent or \$42,500.00. The tribe will cover half the cost of the contract archaeologist, leaving \$21,250.00 to be covered by MLIA.

Elders are contracted at \$150 a day for cultural resource consultation. It will take approximately sixty days of in the field consultation and another 30 days of follow up meetings and review of cultural resource forms, sites, and tribal registry nominations. The Chippewa Cree Tribe will cover 30 days of the elders' time through their contract with the Tribal Archaeologist. The additional 60 days \$9000.00 would be covered by MLIA funding.

The database specialist would be contracted to build the CCTCSD at the rate of \$40 an hour for 80 hours (\$3200). There will be an additional 3 hours a month for a year, for an additional 36 hours for maintenance, uploading data, adding and removing access to the database for individuals and/or groups, updating website content, and trouble shooting (\$1440). The total cost for this contract would be \$4640.00 and would be covered by MLIA funding.

Supplies: The program will purchase a Leica Viva Rover to complete the mapping portion of the project. Total cost for this is **\$25,740.00** as detailed below.

GS15 Viva PERFORMANCE smart antenna \$13,671.00
1 Leica 767805 Glonass Option \$2,106.00
1 Leica 767822 Pacific Crest ADL RX/TX radio module \$1,800.00
1 Leica 767790 Radio antenna extension arm \$198.00
1 Leica 667243 Gainflex radio antenna \$45.00
1 Leica 767879 Data Collector bracket \$54.00
1 Leica 767880 Pole clamp \$90.00
1 Leica 767827 equipment case \$180.00
5 Leica 772806 2.6 ah Lithium Ion batteries \$585.00
1 Leica 767856 SD memory card \$180.00
1 Leica 767869 Field Controller with full keyboard \$3,330.00
1 Leica 767874 connector module for field controller \$135.00
1 Leica 767906 Office docking station for controller \$198.00
1 Leica 733271 Charger Pro \$495.00
2 Leica 733323 charger adaptors (2 batteries each) \$108.00
1 Leica 6003680 Customer Care Package subscription \$810.00
1 Leica 767921 Road Runner application \$855.00
1 Leica 767915 Reference Line stake out application \$225.00
1 Leica 767908 Smartworx Viva CD \$45.00
1 Leica 767909 Smartworx Viva License Key \$630.00

Total \$25,740.00

Personnel: The Chippewa Cree Tribe will utilize the Wetlands Coordinator on a half FTE basis to conduct fieldwork and assist in GIS database entry. Total annual cost for salaries is \$88,000. A quarter of the CCTCSD cost of the Wetlands Coordinator will be covered by the

Chippewa Cree Wetlands Program Development Grant 2010-11. This leaves a quarter of the FTE to be covered by MLIA at **\$22,000**.

Indirect cost: The Chippewa Cree Tribe Central Services currently administers payroll, and purchases and finances for EPA Grants received by the Tribe. The total indirect cost is typically 21.5% for the Tribe. For this project, the tribe will cut the overhead to 5% to increase the chances of funding. Indirect cost for this project **\$4,131.50**

Total Amount of MLIAC funds requested: \$82,630.00

Category	MLIA Share	Applicant Share	Other Share	Total
a. Personnel	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00		\$44,000.00
a.1 Fringe Benefits				
b. Travel				
c. Equipment	\$25,740.00			\$25,740.00
d. Supplies				
e. Contractual	\$34,890.00	\$24,250.00		\$59,140.00
f. Other (indirect)	\$6,444.00	\$21,265.20		\$27,709.20
Totals	\$89,074.00	\$67,515.20		\$156,586.20

In addition to the above in-kind from the Chippewa Cree Tribe we are working with several partners on an ongoing basis that supports the project in different ways. The Montana State Historic Preservation Office has been a partner with Chippewa Cree Cultural Heritage Program in many different ways, including technical support, training opportunities, and funding when available. They supply support and assistance with the State Antiquities Database which houses the data on known archaeological site on Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation. Their support will continue throughout this project.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has also been a crucial asset to the Cultural Heritage Program. The BIA has likewise added funding when possible and variety of other types of support including training, travel for conferences, and on the ground assistance with site assessment and mitigation. For this project the BIA has agreed to supply the additional necessary GIS software and additional GIS training for tribal members. This will ensure ongoing success of the project as the knowledge of the system and proficient skill in the software are gained by the younger generation.

Authorizing Statement

I hereby certify that the information and all statements in this application are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the project or activity complies with all applicable state, local and federal laws and regulations.

I further certify that this project will comply with applicable statutory and regulatory standards.

I further certify that I am (by my signature) authorized to enter into a binding agreement with the Montana Department of Administration to obtain a grant if this application receives approval.

Jonathan Eagleman

Name (print or type)

Director of Chippewa Cree Tribal Water Resources

Title (print or type)

Signature and Title of Authorized Representative(s) of Public Entity Applicant

Date February 15, 2011